Decrease of AIDS cases

83. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI P.R. RAJAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the total number of HIV-AIDS cases in the country in the recent time have come down drastically;

(b) if so, how many are being affected by the disease and number of deaths due to AIDS during 2006-07;

(c) whether a similar reduction in cases is found in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) what steps are mooted to reduce the incidence of AIDS in Andhra Pradesh and how much Central assistance is earmarked to bring down the number of cases in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The 2006 estimates released recently by the National AIDS Control Organisation, supported by UNAIDS and WHO, indicate that an estimated 2 million to 3.1million people are living with HIV in the country. These estimates are more accurate than those of previous years, as they are based on an expanded surveillance system and a revised and enhanced methodology. The methodology adopted use of multiple data sources including National Family Health Survey-3.

The new methods developed for the revised estimates have also been used to "back-calculate" the prevalence for years since 2002 based on the new set of assumptions and measures. These figures allow a fair comparison of year-on-year trends in HIV prevalence. They show an epidemic that is stable over time with marginal decline in 2006.

(b) 29166 AIDS cases and 1786 deaths reported by the state health authorities during the year 2006.

(c) The estimated numbers of HIV positive persons in the State of Andhra Pradesh has also shown similar reduction using the new method.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Government of India has launched National AIDS Control Programme phase-III, with the goal to halt and reverse the epidemic in the country over the next 5 years by integrating programmes for prevention, care, support and treatment. This will be achieved through a four-pronged strategy:

1. Prevention of new infections in high risk groups and general population.
2. Providing greater care, support and treatment to larger number of PLHA.
3. Strengthening the infrastructure, systems and human resources in prevention, care, support and treatment programmes at the district, state and national level.

4. Strengthening the nationwide Strategic Information Management System.

During the FY 2007-08, Rs. 75.3 crores has been earmarked as Central assistance to control the spread of HIV/AIDS in Andhra Pradesh.

Report on conduct of doctors

84. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has taken note of the conduct of doctors who recently have conducted medical check up of students of Sardar Patel Vidyalaya in New Delhi as pointed out by Ashok Agarwal Committee;

(b) if so, the observation of the Committee against the doctors in this case; and

(c) the action taken/ proposed to be taken in the matter by the Government or the Medical Council of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Bill on Clinical Establishments

85. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to introduce a legislation in the Parliament to register and regulate all clinical establishments and penalise those establishment who fail to provide minimum standards of services;

(b) if so, the essential features of the proposed legislation;

(c) whether State Governments have been consulted in the matter; and

(d) if so, the reactions obtained from each of the States, and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) It is proposed to introduce a legislation namely the "Clinical Establishments (Regulation and Registration) Bill, 2007" in the current session of the Parliament. The Bill seeks to provide for registration & regulation of clinical establishments in the country.

A National Council shall determine the standards for clinical establishments, classify the clinical establishment into different categories, develop the minimum standards and their periodic review, compile, maintain and update a national register of clinical establishments, perform any other function determined by the Central Government, from time to time.

Further, no person shall carry on a clinical establishment unless it has been registered in accordance with the provisions of the proposed Bill. However, this would not apply to the clinical establishments of the Armed Forces;

The proposed legislation provides for maintenance of register of clinical establishments at the district level, State level and the National level;